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EASTERN MEAT SITUATION IMPROVES UNDER STRICT DISCIPLINE;
12 FIRED, 7 TRIED FOR GRADING ERRORS

I. Bodunov

In accordance with the decision of the February plenum of the TsK VKP(b), the kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the East achieved in 1948 notable successes in all branches of agriculture, including cattle raising. As a result, the annual meat-delivery plan was fulfilled by the Glavzagotakot Vostoka (Main Administration of Cattle Breeding of the East) in all sectors.

The Altay Kray Station took first place among the meat producers. Kazakh SSR, which must produce 30 percent of all the meat, fulfilled its quota 100.3 percent. The kolkhozes in this area met their quota 100 percent.

The following stations, likewise, fulfilled their quotas: Yakutsk, Chkalov, Chita, Chelyabinsk, Tuva, Sverdlov, Molotov, Kurgan, Krasnoyarsk, and Buryat-Mongol.

The Tumen' Oblast station lagged behind with 85.3 percent.

Along with the successful completion of the cattle-raising plan must be noted the increase of high-grade cattle. During 9 months of 1948, fat livestock and stock above average totaled 4.6 percent of all cattle fattened as against 2.7 percent in 1947; average cattle totaled 64 percent as against 52 percent.

The kolkhozes of Kazakh SSR, in particular, produced well-fed cattle. During a period of 9 months, they delivered to the state a total of 97.4 percent of large horned-cattle that was fat, above average, or average as compared with 92.7 percent in 1940.

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Large numbers of inferior cattle were delivered by the following oblasts, Omsk, 61.3 percent; Tomsk, 49.6 percent; Novosibirsk, 49.8 percent; Tumen, 49.8 percent. Poor care of the cattle by inexperienced herders and the laxity of local officials are blamed for the inferior product.

On the other hand, strict conformity to the law, which forbids the acceptance of low-grade cattle from the kolkhozes, accounted for the improved quality of the meat deliveries. The Ministry punished severely a number of workers in the meat-stocking stations for violations of the law. In Tumen Oblast, two rayon station managers, three base directors, and three receivers were dismissed; five persons were tried in court. In the Molotov Oblast Station, four managers were dismissed for such violations, and two were tried in court.

During the past year, the Zagotskot system gave the country 212,500 centners of meat in excess of plan, as compared with 115,580 excess centners in 1940. A total of 88,430 lambs and 15,865 calves were raised and delivered to the State.

The Altay Kray Station exceeded its meat norm 32,660 centners, and the Novosibirsk Oblast Station 13,915 centners.

The pasturing, fattening, and raising to full growth was unsatisfactory in the following localities: the Kazakh SSR Station, which completed only 87 percent of its cattle-fattening plan; Chelyabinsk Oblast Station, with 94 percent; the Tumen Oblast Station, with 93 percent; and the Molotov Oblast Station, with 92 percent.

In 1948 during the spring-summer period, the Guryev Oblast Station drove 50,000 sheep and 4,000 head of cattle to the Orsk Meat Combine over an average distance of 1,700 kilometers. The Kzyl-Orda Oblast Station drove 42,000 head of cattle and 10,000 head of sheep and goats to the Orsk Meat Combine, a distance of 1,600 kilometers.

The Kazakhstan Oblast stations drive yearly, over great distances, as many as 300,000 head of cattle and up to a million sheep. The drive from the Alma-Ata Station to the Semipalatinsk Meat Combine is 1,400 - 1,500 km. From the Taldy-Kurgan Station to the Semipalatinsk Combine is 1,000 kilometers.

Ten years' experience of the Glavzagotrkot shows that such movement of cattle over great distances is attended by a considerable increase in the weight of the cattle.

In order to implement the Ministry's 1948 plan of 212,500 centners above quota, thousands of herders drove through the Siberian frosts and storms without any loss of cattle.

During the first 3 postwar years, thousands of Stakhanovite herders have given the country 46,131 tons of top-quality meat and raised 243,600 lambs and 34,800 calves.

More and better equipped piggeries, capable of delivering 2,000 - 3,000 animals at a time, must be built. In the East, feeding stations must be built in the vicinity of alcohol plants and other food enterprises in order to utilize waste for animal food. The program of intensified feeding of cattle during the autumn by utilizing crude fodder with admixture of concentrates and juicy substances must be broadened to the utmost.

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